

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1           1.       A method comprising:  
2           recognizing occurrence of one or more software events that result in at least one  
3           of an error and a warning;  
4           storing an indication of the error/warning in an error/warning storage structure;  
5           and  
6           returning a result from a function call that indicates that the error/warning  
7           indication has been stored in the error/warning storage structure, wherein subsequent  
8           function call returns are not required to store error/warning indications resulting from the  
9           event causing the stored indication.

1           2.       The method of claim 1 wherein storing an indication of the error/warning  
2           is accomplished by a thin wrapper class structure.

1           3.       The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a general message  
2           based on one or more error/warning indications stored in the error/warning storage  
3           structure.

1           4.       The method of claim 3, wherein the general message is expanded to  
2           provide additional error/warning information in response to user input.

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1           5.     The method of claim 1 further comprising indicating a design element  
2     causing the error/warning.

1           6.     A machine-readable medium having stored thereon sequences of  
2     instructions, which when executed by a processor cause the processor to:  
3             recognize occurrence of one or more software events that result in one of an error  
4     and a warning;  
5             store an indication of the error/warning in an error/warning storage structure; and  
6             return a result from a function call that indicates that the error/warning indication  
7     has been stored in the error/warning storage structure, wherein subsequent function call  
8     returns are not required to store additional error/warning indications resulting from the  
9     event causing the stored error/warning indication.

1           7.     The machine-readable medium of claim 6 wherein the sequences of  
2     instructions that cause the processor to store an indication of the error/warning further  
3     comprise a sequence of instructions including a thin wrapper class structure constructor.

1           8.     The machine-readable medium of claim 6 further comprising sequences of  
2     instructions, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to display a  
3     general message based on one or more error/warning indications stored in the  
4     error/warning storage structure.

1           9.     The machine-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the general message is  
2     expanded to provide additional error/warning information in response to user input.

1           10.    The machine-readable medium of claim 6 further comprising sequences of  
2     instructions that cause the processor to indicate a design element causing the  
3     error/warning.

1           11.    An apparatus comprising:  
2           means for recognizing the occurrence of one or more software events that result in  
3     one of an error and a warning;  
4           means for storing an indication of the error/warning; and  
5           means for returning a result from a function call that indicates that the  
6     error/warning indication has been stored in the error/warning storage structure, wherein  
7     subsequent function call returns are not required to store additional error/warning  
8     indications in the error/warning storage structure.

1           12.    The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the means for storing an indication of  
2     the error/warning comprise means for constructing a thin wrapper class structure.

1           13.    The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising means for displaying a  
2     general message based on one or more error/warning indications stored in the  
3     error/warning storage structure.

1           14.    The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the general message is expanded to  
2   provide additional error/warning information in response to user input.

1           15.    The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising means for indicating a  
2   design element causing the error/warning.

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